



Transport Guidance


Corresponds to AW4.6.

Number	Requirement	Level
TG1. Responsibilities, Competency, and Stockmanship		
TG1.1	At every stage of transport, animals shall be cared for by a sufficient number of personnel, who collectively possess the appropriate ability, knowledge and competence necessary to maintain the health and welfare of the animals.	C
TG1.2	The person in charge of an animal may change as it moves from the farm to its final destination. The responsibility for implementing the standard therefore lies with the person(s) selecting and presenting animals for transport, and also the person(s) or organization(s) accepting the animals for transport.	Ma
	TG1.2.1 Where the responsibility changes, the person(s) or organization(s) accepting the animals for transport shall provide a copy of their Standard Operating Procedures.	Mi
TG2. Documentation		
TG2.1	All required documentation shall be completed and accessible to the relevant personnel prior to embarking on and during travel, so that incomplete or inaccessible documentation does not cause any delay in animals reaching the destination or being unloaded at the destination.	Mi
TG2.2	There shall be a contingency plan in place that allows the needs of animals to be met in the event of any delays arising during the journey.	Mi
TG3. Fitness for Travel		
TG3.1	All sheep shall be assessed as fit for transport. The following animals shall not be transported unless it is for the purposes of veterinary treatment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. sick, injured, weak, or disabled animals 	C



Number	Requirement	Level
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">b. those that are unable to stand unaided and bear weight on each legc. those that are blind in both eyesd. those that cannot be moved without causing them additional sufferinge. those whose body condition would result in poor welfare because of the expected climatic conditions.	
TG3.1.1	If animals meeting these conditions are suffering and unlikely to recover, they should be euthanized on the farm. They should not be transported to auction or slaughter.	R
TG3.2	The following animals shall only be transported if the journey is short (less than 50km) and the purpose is to improve conditions for the animal and the journey will not cause unnecessary pain or suffering. Otherwise, transport shall be delayed until they are fit to travel. <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Heavily pregnant ewes (past 90% gestation)b. New born lambs where the navel has not completely healedc. Ewes that have given birth in the previous seven days	Ma
TG4. Separation		
TG4.1	Sheep shall be handled and transported separately from other species. The following separations shall also be applied: <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Sheep of significantly different sizes or agesb. Sexually mature males from femalesc. Animals with horns from animals without hornsd. Animals hostile to each othere. Tied animals from untied animals <p><i>NOTE: TG4.1 does not apply where animals have been raised in compatible groups, are accustomed to each other and where separation would cause distress or where animals are accompanied by dependent young.</i></p>	Mi



Number	Requirement	Level
TG5. Preparation for Transport		
TG5.1	Animals shall be appropriately prepared for transport, including through the provision of sufficient food and water, as appropriate to the species, age, condition and expected length and conditions of the journey, so that pain, injury or distress to themselves or other animals is avoided.	Ma
TG5.2	Before undertaking a journey during which the animals will be fed and watered, animals shall be familiarized with the feed to be offered and the methods by which the feed and water are given.	Mi
TG6. Transport vehicles and facilities for livestock		
TG6.1	The vehicle and its loading and unloading facilities shall be designed, constructed and maintained to avoid injury and suffering and to ensure the safety of the animals.	Ma
TG6.2	Ramps shall be set at an incline of no greater than 27 degrees and have measures in place to prevent injury.	Mi
TG6.3	Conveyances and containers shall be designed to ensure adequate ventilation or oxygenation to allow the free flow of air or oxygen to all animals, even when stationary, to prevent the build-up of harmful concentrations of gases or impurities, water vapor or temperature.	Mi
TG6.4	Conveyances and containers shall be designed to provide protection from adverse weather that may be a risk to the animal's health and welfare.	Mi
	In very cold weather a vehicle with a solid front must be used for young stock to reduce the wind chill factor.	
TG6.5	Where animals show signs of heat or cold stress or distress from exposure to noxious gases, immediate corrective action shall be taken.	Ma
TG6.6	Animals shall not be transported when climactic conditions are likely to cause significant discomfort or harm	Mi



Number	Requirement	Level
	<p>Climatic conditions that can cause significant discomfort or harm include hot and cold temperature extremes, heavy snow, or freezing rain.</p> <p>If transport on days of extreme heat is absolutely necessary, the journey plan should minimize the effects of heat stress on animals with rest stops planned to be in areas of shade and perhaps a water source.</p> <p>Animals should only be transported during the cooler hours of the day. If it is necessary to stop, park the vehicle in the shade and at a right angle to the wind direction to improve wind flow between animals during hot weather. Duration of stops should be kept to a minimum to avoid the build-up of heat while the vehicle is stationary.</p> <p>Stocking densities should be reduced to 85 per cent of capacity to ensure good air flow between animals, and drivers should have contingency plans in place for adverse weather events.</p> <p>If sheep are being transported in very cold weather, vehicles may need to be halted and parked in a protected area to prevent wind chill and hypothermia in the animals.</p>	

TG7. Loading and Unloading

TG7.1	Animals shall be loaded and unloaded in a way that minimizes the risk of pain, injury or distress to the animals. The use of electric prodders is prohibited.	Ma
TG7.2	Sheep shall not be dropped, dragged or pulled by the fleece, tail, ears, head, horns or neck.	Ma
TG7.3	Stocking density shall be sufficient to allow animals to adopt a natural posture during the journey.	Ma

TG8. Recommended space allowance

TG8.1	<p>Each sheep should have the following minimum area in transport:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Shorn sheep and lambs of 26 kg or over: 0.20-0.30 m²/animal b. Unshorn sheep: 0.30-0.40 m²/animal 	R
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c. Heavily pregnant ewes 0.40-0.50 m²/animal

TG9. Journey times, food, water, and rest

TG9.1 Journeys shall be direct, without any prolonged stops. Ma

TG9.1.1. All animals should be transported for the shortest possible time. R



If a farm takes sheep to slaughter or market they should not bypass a nearby site to go to a further destination without good reason.

TG9.2 Water, feed, and opportunity to rest shall be made available to animals as appropriate to meet their health needs. Ma

TG9.3 After each 24 hours of travel adult sheep shall have a rest period of at least 12 hours. Ma

TG9.3.1 Animals between weaning and 12 months of age shall have a rest period of at least 12 hours after every 18 hours of transport. Ma



Travel duration is calculated from the time loading starts, time on the vehicle and unloading time.

TG9.4 During every specified rest period, sheep of all ages shall: Ma

- a) be unloaded;
- b) have access to food and clean water
- c) have enough space for exercise and rest.



Sheep should have at least the following minimum area per animal during rest periods:

Type of animal	Minimum area per animal m2 (ft2)
Ewe	1.2 (15)
Weaned lambs	0.9 (10)



Number	Requirement	Level
	Rams	1.5 (21)
TG9.5	Water and feed shall be provided at least once in every 24 hours to animals older than 12 months, except for animals traveling on a journey that will be entirely completed within 30 hours. <i>The relevant period for determining feed and water requirement is the total period of deprivation of feed and water from the time of initial loading until unloading after the second or last journey.</i>	Ma
TG10. Monitoring and Records		
TG10.1	Animals shall be inspected for injury or signs of pain or distress at regular intervals during the journey, including at rest breaks taken by the operator of the conveyance and at refueling stops.	Ma
TG10.2	Animals found to be distressed or injured shall be assisted, treated or if necessary, euthanized as soon as practicable.	Ma